Survey to assess tourism potential

3360. SHRI S.M. LAL JAN BASHA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any agency with adequate skills to undertake surveys to assess tourism potential;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any such survey has been done in 2002-2003 anywhere in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OFTOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) No Sir.The Department of Tourism, Government of India has no specific agency to undertake surveys to assess tourism potential. But data is collected from the State Governments which indicates the tourism potential of various sites.

(c) and (d) The Department of Tourism, Government of India has got done following important tourism related surveys/studies through Consultancy agencies during the year 2002-03.

(i) 20-year perspective plan for tourism development in almost all the States/UTs.

(ii) A study on the impact of Tourism on Socio-Economic development in Rajasthan & Kerala.

(iii) Survey of Foreign Tourists' expenses on Handicrafts.

(iv) Development Plan for Haridwar & Rishikesh in Uttaranchal.

(v) Master Plan for Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits of North-Eastern Regions and Central Circuits (Madhya Pradesh).

(vi) Study to examine the taxes levied by State/Central Govt, in Indian Tourism sector.

(vii) Development Plan for Mahabalipuram.

(viii) International Passenger Survey, 2002-03 (On-going).

(ix) Domestic Tourism Expenditure Survey (On-going).

(x) Study on impact of tourism in employment generation and future employment potential at selected destinations (On-going).